



02-14-06

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Express Mail No.: - EV 860438325 US

Date of Deposit: - February 13, 2006

Type of Document(s): - Transmittal Form (PTO/SB/21)
- Response to Non-Final Office Action
(10 pages)
- Postcard Receipt

Application No.: - 09/916,076

Filed: - July 26, 2001

Applicant(s): - Hechun CHEN et al.

Title: - SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR AUTOMATIC
END-TO-END PATH PROVISIONING FOR
SONET NETWORKS

Examiner: - Ajit Patel

Art Unit: - 2664

Attorney Docket No.: - 10.0518

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Barbara C. Brown
Paralegal



PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

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**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

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Total Number of Pages in This Submission

11

Application Number 09/916,076

Filing Date July 26, 2001

First Named Inventor Hechum CHEN et al.

Art Unit 2664

Examiner Name Ajit G. Patel

Attorney Docket Number 10.0518

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

| | | | |
|--------------|------------------------|----------|--------|
| Firm Name | DOUGHERTY CLEMENTS | | |
| Signature | | | |
| Printed name | Christopher L. Bernard | | |
| Date | 2/13/2006 | Reg. No. | 48,234 |

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| Typed or printed name | Barbara C. Brown | Date | 2/13/2006 |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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|-----------------|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Applicant(s) |) | Hechun CHEN et al. |
| Application No. |) | 09/916,076 |
| Filing Date |) | July 26, 2001 |
| Title |) | SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR AUTOMATIC END-TO-END PATH PROVISIONING FOR SONET NETWORKS |
| Examiner |) | Ajit Patel |
| Art Unit |) | 2664 |

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 USA

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir/Madam:

In response to the non-final Office Action mailed November 15, 2005, rejecting Claims 1-15 and 18 of the above-referenced Application, in which Claims 1-20 are pending, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered and remarks be considered. In view of these amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the Application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully request such action.